

# JORDAN TIMES

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جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

## Junblatt supporters demonstrate

AMMAN, March 21 (R). — Followers of assassinated leftist leader Kamal Junblatt today staged peaceful demonstrations in Beirut pledging their continued support for his ideas. They also chanted slogans against two principal conservative leaders, Phalangist Party leader Pierre Gemayel and National Liberal leader Camille Chamoun. The demonstrations, supervised by Lebanese police and Sudanese troops of the Arab League force, began after the death-leader's son received news here. The Lebanese cabinet tonight decided to dissolve the case of Mr. Junblatt's assassination to the country's highest legal body -- the Judicial Council. The move reflects the importance which the state is attaching to the case.

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## India's Janata Party inflicts crushing defeat on Congress

DELHI, March 22 (R). — Opposition Janata Party allies today won an absolute majority in India's general election, inflicting a humiliating defeat on the Congress Party. The Janata Party, led by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, won 272 seats out of the 542 seats in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament. The Congress Party, led by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, won 146 seats. The Janata Party's victory was a surprise, as it was considered a long shot. The Congress Party had been the dominant force in Indian politics for decades. The Janata Party's victory was a result of its strong performance in the northern states, where it had a long history of support. The Congress Party's defeat was a result of its poor performance in the northern states, where it had a long history of support.

## Pakistan opposition rns down Bhutto's invitation to dialogue

ISLAMABAD, March 21 (R). — Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto today rejected by all opposition parties today in a move to end a confrontation with the government. The opposition parties, including the National Alliance, the National Front, and the National Council, all rejected Bhutto's invitation to dialogue. They argued that Bhutto's government was responsible for the deaths of thousands of people in the recent elections. They also argued that Bhutto's government was not committed to democratic principles. Bhutto's government had been in power for a long time, and it had been accused of many human rights violations. The opposition parties wanted Bhutto to step down and to hold new elections. Bhutto's government had been accused of many human rights violations. The opposition parties wanted Bhutto to step down and to hold new elections.

## Following leftist wins Giscard considers cabinet reshuffle

PARIS, March 21 (R). — The government by the French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing today announced an immediate change in the cabinet, including a reshuffle. Giscard d'Estaing announced the change after a series of defeats in the recent elections. He said that the government needed to be more effective and more responsive to the needs of the people. He said that the reshuffle was necessary to ensure that the government was able to carry out its duties. The reshuffle included the appointment of new ministers to several key positions. Giscard d'Estaing said that the reshuffle was a sign of the government's commitment to democratic principles.

## Callaghan looks for allies to survive no confidence vote

LONDON, March 21 (R). — British Prime Minister James Callaghan today sought support from his Labour Party colleagues to survive a no confidence vote. Callaghan's government had been in power for a long time, and it had been accused of many human rights violations. The opposition parties wanted Callaghan to step down and to hold new elections. Callaghan's government had been accused of many human rights violations. The opposition parties wanted Callaghan to step down and to hold new elections. Callaghan's government had been accused of many human rights violations. The opposition parties wanted Callaghan to step down and to hold new elections.

livered to acting president Bappa Danappa Jatti, who earlier today removed the controversial state of emergency imposed by Mrs. Gandhi 21 months ago. The opposition leaders will not name a prime minister until Thursday, after three days of intensive discussions here. But 81-year-old Morarji Desai, its chairman and elder statesman, is expected to win the nomination. The Janata Party and its principal electoral ally -- the Congress Party -- will function as a single parliamentary group, Janata Secretary General Surendra Mohan told a crowded press conference here. Mr. Mohan promised that the Janata Party would restore civil liberties, democratic rights and full press freedom soon after forming a government. Mrs. Gandhi, in one of her last official acts as prime minister, ordered a halt to the widely unpopular state of internal emergency which cost her party the election. Mrs. Gandhi's decision set thousands of people free from India's prisons. The Janata Party announced meanwhile that it would institute a code of personal and public conduct for members of parliament which would exclude all ostentatious living and expenditure. Leaders of the Janata Party and CDF have shown reluctance to discuss who will lead the country when they come to power. Former Agriculture Minister Jagjivan Ram, who became the opposition's trump card when he resigned from the cabinet and formed the CDF six weeks before the elections, said efforts would be made to avoid a contest. The 68-year-old leader of India's 80 million untouchables is regarded as Mr. Desai's main rival for the leadership. He appealed today for respect and consideration to be shown to Mrs. Gandhi, following defeat in her own constituency of Rae Bareilly. Mrs. Gandhi lost by more than 55,000 votes to her long-time opponent Raj Narain, a veteran socialist leader she had jailed for 20 months under the internal emergency. Some of India's most powerful political figures under the emergency were defeated along with Mrs. Gandhi. They include her son Sanjay Gandhi, 30, Defence Minister Bansi Lal and Information Minister Vidya Charan Shukla.

PARIS, March 21 (R). — Palestinian commander Yasser Arafat said today Palestinians are ready to set up a state "on any part of our soil freed from occupation." He made his comment in an interview with the independent daily Le Monde at the conclusion in Cairo of the Palestinian National Council meeting, whose decisions he denied were hardline. He said: "There is no Palestinian today who refuses the establishment of a state on any part of our soil freed from occupation." Yasser Arafat, commenting on U.S. President Jimmy Carter's remarks about a Palestinian homeland, said: "We always hope that the American president, who announced his desire for the moralisation of political action, will understand the tragedy of our people, hunted, refugees deprived of all national rights." The leader of the PLO said that the council meeting produced a stronger political leadership which is "a great step forward towards us." Commenting on the council's 15-point plan he said: "The points are clearer, more precise and consistent than all the previous resolutions of national councils, they are not hardline." The council which ended its meetings in Cairo last night, adopted by an overwhelming majority a 15-point programme calling for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The programme, a compromise between moderate and hard-line positions, reflected a distinct hardening of the Palestinian stand on international peace efforts, delegates said. However, the Palestinian leadership left the door ajar to Middle East peace negotiations -- on stringent conditions laid down by the Palestinians themselves. The programme, which said the PLO had the right to attend all international conferences on the Middle East, for the first time spelled out the conditions under which it would sit down at the negotiating table. The programme firmly ruled out Palestinian attendance at a reconvened Geneva conference under present terms of reference -- U.N. Security Council resolution 242 which defined the Palestinian issue as a refugee problem. The final point of the policy programme said the PLO would take part in peace talks on the basis of a 1974 U.N. General Assembly resolution reaffirming the Palestinians' right to self-determination, national independence and sovereignty. The programme implied that there would be no Palestinian recognition of Israel and no peace with it even after establishment of an independent Palestinian state. In Washington, the State Department said today that decisions by the council at its recent meeting failed to show any shift on the key question of Israel's right to exist. State Department Spokesman Frederick Brown told reporters one difference that has to be resolved in the Middle East is the PLO refusal to accept Israel's existence and United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. In occupied Jerusalem, Israeli officials said today that the Palestinian movement's decision to take a tougher line on Middle East peace moves showed the world that Israel has been right to treat it as extremist. "They are divided between extremists and even more extremists," Foreign Minister Yigal Allon commented today on Israeli Radio. He called for "a positive plan to solve the Palestinian problem within the framework of peace with Jordan." Officials today said they believed the Palestinians' decisions in Cairo could lead President Carter to review his recent sympathetic view of the idea of a Palestinian homeland. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, long and hard-line concerning the PLO said last night the Cairo decisions justified Israel's refusal to negotiate with the Palestinian movement. He added: "The only place we will meet is on the battlefield."

## Arafat expounds in interview PNC gives leaders mandate to negotiate setting up Palestinian state

AMMAN, March 21 (R). — Four Arab League member states will hold a summit conference tomorrow to discuss the Red Sea which is becoming one of the most sensitive areas in terms of Arab security. The four states -- Sudan, Somalia, North Yemen and South Yemen -- have Red Sea coastlines, but there are considerable differences of opinion between the group of states with Red Sea interests. During the summit, to be held in Taiz, North Yemen, the four presidents will discuss North Yemen's attempts to mediate over differences in the region. A summit involving Sudan, Egypt and Syria in Khartoum last month pushed ahead plans to make the Red Sea virtually an Arab lake. Diplomatic observers said the summit's decisions carried implicit warnings to the Soviet Union, the U.S., Israel, Libya and Ethiopia not to meddle in the area. The Red Sea and the Sudan form the back door to Egypt, and the Arab Fertile Crescent and Saudi Arabia's western flank. It also commands the Suez Canal route between Europe and Asia and for Israel the Khartoum summit has underlined the vulnerability of its supply routes to the Indian Ocean and the Gulf -- vital for its supplies of Iranian oil. Tomorrow's meeting, according to political sources here, is to see if the four states can maintain an Arab stance in the face of increasing pressure from Ethiopia which has a long Red Sea coastline and is at odds with Sudan and Somalia. They will also have to decide what course to follow if North Yemen's projected mediation effort fails, the sources added. Last November North Yemen said "enemy planes" violated its southern air space over the Bab Al Mandab area and hinted they were Israeli. The Khartoum summit statement on the Red Sea so infuriated Ethiopia that it has threatened to shoot down any Arab plane flying over the sea without prior Ethiopian approval. Ethiopia alleges that Sudan and Somalia are giving encouragement to liberation movements in its eastern province of Eritrea, and it also stands to lose its two main ports of Assab and Massawa if the Eritreans achieve independence. France's last colony in Africa, the territory of the Afars and Issas (Djibouti) is due to achieve independence in June and Ethiopia is fearful that it could then lose its only rail link with the Red Sea. Another issue the four leaders are expected to examine is how to end disputes between summit participants and any other Arab country.

## 4-Arab nation summit opens today

ROME, March 21 (R). — Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti began crisis talks with Communist and other Italian leaders today to seek approval for a tough anti-inflation package after saying that failure might force his minority government to resign. The economic package is demanded by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in return for a \$530-million loan. But measures to cut labour costs and check prices have run into bitter trade union opposition. The unions are supported by the Communist and Socialist Parties, on whose abstentions in parliament Signor Andreotti's minority Christian Democratic government depends. It is Italy's 39th post-Fascist government. Signor Andreotti was seen tonight in what is likely to be the most important of a series of meetings this week. The premier is one of Italy's most skilled politicians, but many commentators now doubt whether he will be able to save his fragile, nine-month-old administration. Communist leaders appear to be divided on their future attitude to the government, following violent leftist demonstrations nine days ago and because of union hostility to its policies. The long-term Communist aim remains to participate in government with the Christian Democrats and smaller parties. But leftists have accused Communist leaders of selling out to the ruling party without getting meaningful concessions. Signor Andreotti will meet officials of the Communist-dominated trade union movement later this week.

## Andreotti seeks approval for anti-inflation plan

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His Majesty King Hussein and his sons, Prince Abdullah and Prince Faisal, pay their respects at the tomb of the late Queen Alya Monday on the 40th day since her death. The tomb was also visited by Prince Hassan; Prince Nayef; the Queen's father, Mr. Bahaaddin Touqan; Prime Minister Mudar Badran; and high ranking state, army and security officials and officers. They also visited the tombs of Dr. Mohammad Al Bashir, Lt.-Col. Muhammad Alkhash and Lt.-Col. Badreddin Zaza.

## Brezhnev outlines Mideast peace plan

MOSCOW, March 21 (R). — Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev today set out a detailed Kremlin plan for peace in the Middle East, including stage-by-stage Israeli withdrawals from occupied territories and demilitarised zones along future borders. He also suggested that the Soviet Union, the United States and other countries supplying weapons to the Middle East should study ways of ending the arms race there. "In general, the problem of the international arms trade seems to merit an exchange of views," Mr. Brezhnev said in a speech here to the Soviet Congress of Trade Unions. As outlined by the Soviet leader, the peace plan incorporated several ideas which the Soviet Union has long suggested. But it also introduced new details, among them the idea of an agreed schedule allowing for Israeli withdrawals by stages -- "in the course, say, of several months." Another new proposal included in Mr. Brezhnev's Middle East peace scenario was for demilitarised zones to be created on both sides of borders established by a settlement -- provided the countries involved gave their consent. A United Nations emergency force or observers could be stationed within the zones for a clearly-defined period after the settlement, he suggested. As he did more than a year ago, at the 25th Communist Party Congress, Mr. Brezhnev suggested that the Soviet Union, the United States, France and Britain could act as guarantors of an eventual settlement. Alternatively, if the signatories preferred, the peace agreement could be guaranteed by the United Nations Security Council. Diplomatic observers said Mr. Brezhnev's proposals, the most detailed made by the Soviet Union for some time, seemed intended to go some way towards reassuring Israel as well as reflecting the interests of the Palestinians. Mr. Brezhnev stressed that a final peace document or documents should outlaw the acquisition of territory by war and ensure the rights of all Middle East states to independence and security, as well as guaranteeing the Palestinians' rights to create their own state. Although he did not say so explicitly, the first two points clearly took account of Israeli as well as Arab interests, the observers said. As part of an eventual settlement, the Soviet scenario foresaw Israel's withdrawal from all territories it occupied in 1967. Appropriate borders between Israel and its Arab neighbours -- Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon -- should be clearly defined and declared "finally established and inviolable," the Soviet leader said. The state of war between Israel and Arab countries would end with the completion of the Israeli withdrawals and all sides would undertake "to respect each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability and political independence." They would also pledge to resolve disputes by peaceful means. In another new proposal, Mr. Brezhnev suggested that the peace package should include provisions for free passage of ships of all countries -- including Israel -- through the Gulf of Aqaba and the Tiran Straits. He also proposed that Egypt might make a statement on the passage of ships through the Suez Canal. The Soviet Union has made repeated appeals for the resumption of the Geneva Peace conference, which met only once -- for two days in December, 1973 -- before being adjourned. In his speech, Mr. Brezhnev stressed that the parley was not an end in itself, however. What mattered was that its results should be "fruitful and just." Observers said his remarks on the Middle East seemed designed to put Soviet views on record again after this month's meeting of the Palestinian National Council and President Carter's call two weeks ago for "defensible" Israeli borders following a settlement.

## Envisages phased Israeli withdrawal

WASHINGTON, March 21 (R). — President Carter and Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda opened talks today on security, nuclear and trade issues after acclaiming the strong ties between the United States and Japan. "Let's work together," the prime minister said as he ended a speech in response to the president's words of welcome on the White House lawn. The agenda for their talks embraced Japan's concern that it might be cut off from American nuclear technology, international trade and Asian security, including the planned withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea. President Carter in his welcoming remarks described the prime minister as "one of the great leaders of one of the greatest countries on earth."

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## ...and slams U.S. support for dissidents

MOSCOW, March 21 (R). — Kremlin leader Leonid Brezhnev today accused the United States of interfering in Soviet internal affairs and said dissidents whom Washington has supported were accomplices and agents of imperialism. Clearly responding to President Carter's outspoken backing for the human rights cause in Communist countries, Mr. Brezhnev said there could be no normal development of relations between the two powers if the alleged U.S. interference continued. Pounding the rostrum as he spoke to delegates at the 16th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions in the Kremlin, the 70-year-old Communist Party chief proclaimed that dissidents engaged in anti-state activities would continue to be dealt with under the law. In what some Western diplomats saw as his toughest speech since the detente era began some seven years ago, Mr. Brezhnev said a major obstacle to any improvement in Soviet-U.S. relations was raised "by outright attempts by American official bodies to interfere in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union." Without referring to Mr. Carter directly, the Kremlin chief added, banging his fist for emphasis: "We will not tolerate interference in our internal affairs from anyone under any pretext." "A normal development of relations on such a basis is, of course, unthinkable," Mr. Brezhnev delivered his speech to the 5,000 trade unionists only six days before U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is due in Moscow for the first top-level contacts between Carter officials and Soviet leaders. Reminding his audience of Mr. Vance's impending arrival he declared: "We will see what he brings." But he said he had detected no signs of any effort by the new U.S. administration in its first two months to overcome the stagnation in U.S.-Soviet relations. The Soviet leader made no direct link between the American stand on the human rights issue and Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT). But diplomatic observers said the implication of his remarks was that the attainment of an accord to replace the 1972 SALT agreement, which runs out in October, might be difficult unless Washington toned down its campaigning for civil liberties.

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## Whose extremism?

The final declarations of the Palestine National Council will be violently attacked by many people because of what the world perceives as a new hard-line Palestinian attitude towards the state of Israel.

In fact, the Palestinians have taken a stand -- like all people take stands -- that is made up of both bargaining positions and principles of conviction. The full wisdom of the world's many peace-makers will now be required to identify the basic and irrevocable demands of the Palestinians, and to see how the satisfaction of these demands can be transformed into elements of Middle East stability and guarantors of true peace.

The difficulty is that an absurd atmosphere has been created by the American and Israeli insistence that nothing can happen until the PLO recognises the state of Israel, and the subsequent expectation that this recognition would come out of the Palestine National Council meetings in Cairo last week. Indeed, those expectations were ludicrous, but very much in line with Zionist propaganda techniques. With American leaders liberally repeating their view that nothing could be done in the Middle East until the PLO recognised Israel, everybody then expected the PLO to come up with this recognition, if even in a disguised form, during the meetings in Cairo. This is something no honest Palestinian or Arab national would do in his or her right mind, and it is testament to the political blackmail that Israel exercises over the United States that such an impossible demand is made of the Palestinians. Thus when the PLO does not end its meetings with a public recognition of Israel, it will be attacked for being extremist. The real extremism is not in the Palestinian response, but in the Israeli-American demand.

Israel as it is today will never win Arab recognition. What the Arabs are offering is mutual and simultaneous recognition between Palestinians and Israelis. Why do the Israelis and the Americans demand only Palestinian recognition of Israel? Why the demand on the Palestinians, and not an equal demand on the Israelis?

In fact, the Palestinians have left the door open for a negotiated settlement with Israel, but on the condition that this include the recognition of the national rights of both Israelis and Palestinians. This is the only road to true peace. There are neither shortcuts nor detours. The Palestinians are right and brave to reaffirm this.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

All Jordanian dailies in their Monday editorials eulogised Her Majesty, the late Queen Alya, and her companions on the occasion of the traditional 40th day of mourning since they passed away.

AL RA'I, under the heading "We shall remember you" the s.a.s that under all circumstances we shall remember you as symbols of responsibility, a strong will facing all challenges and as symbols of love for the Jordanian people. Your deaths, the paper says, give life and new meaning to the high principles for which you died. We do not meet on the occasion of the 40th day of mourning in sorrow, but with pride as your deaths were a rebirth and a confirmation of everything that is great and valuable in the life of our country, the paper concluded.

AL DUSTOUR, under the heading "When words cannot express" says that the 40th day of mourning was not an occasion for sorrow as the departure of Alya, like Mothers' Day, is a symbol for love and giving. The departure of her companions was symbol of duty and responsibility, the paper adds. It is a coincidence that the marking of the 40th day of mourning for Alya the mother, comes on Mothers' Day, the paper adds. Such great coincidences resemble past historical ones which give to our lives the true humanitarian meanings which made our nation, throughout the various stages of its history,

a nation of goodwill, the paper adds.

It is also the marking of the 40th day of mourning for Mohammad Al Basheer, Badr and Alkhas and the anniversary of the battle of Al Karamah. On these occasions, words alone reign supreme, as they shake the conscience of the people and awaken those asleep in this century by driving home destiny's facts and the 20th century's difficult challenges, the paper concluded.

AL SHA'B, under the heading "Alya symbol of self-sacrifice and giving" says that the Jordanian family meets to commemorate this occasion in honour of the martyr of self-sacrifice and duty, who passed away during her endeavour to bring happiness to Jordanians.

The commemoration of the 40th day of mourning, coinciding with Mothers' Day, completes the humanitarian meaning and national dimension of that occasion. The martyrdom of Queen Alya has removed from Mothers' Days, and from all our feasts, their individualistic traits and gives them national dimensions.

In honour of Her Majesty's memory, the paper says, we should make Mother's Day every year, the feast for love, self-sacrifice and giving, as Alya was not only the mother of Ali and Haya, but also a mother for all orphans, and a supporter for the sick throughout the kingdom.

Alya has donated all her love to this country and it is her right to expect to live in the hearts of all Jordanians, and her story told to our grandchildren with pride, a story of glory and an example of self-sacrifice, the paper concluded.



## Present tranquility deceptive after Black Muslim attack

WASHINGTON, D.C., (CSM). — The threat adding to the acts of violence in Washington by black members of a zealous Muslim sect has several component strands:

-- The deep and continued yearning of black Americans for identity and roots, sharpened and fueled recently by the television adaptation of Alex Haley's novel "Roots."

-- The conviction of some black Americans that they can find their true identity and roots in Islam, for which the "black" Muslims of the late Elijah Muhammad were originally the pacesetters. (Part of the appeal of Islam is that it is seen as an alternative or challenge to traditional Christianity which blacks in many parts of the world believe has been used as a dialectic to rob them of their roots and enslave them.)

-- The breakaway from Mr. Muhammad's movement of Muslim converts, such as the late Malcolm X, seeking a more coherent (and in their eyes respectable) theology than that preached by him. Schism often produces violence, and the breakaway Hanafi Muslims responsible for the latest hostage-seizing in Washington have

themselves been the victims of violence in the past -- visited on them as heretics by Elijah Muhammad's followers.

-- The refuge offered by fundamentalism or puritanism for some of all faiths or colours who feel their identity threatened under the pressures of today's nuclear-electronic-technological-industrial world. To the fundamentalists of the Hanafi group, the film "Mohammad, Messenger of God" was an offense, even though none of them had seen it.

-- Black American desperation at the worsening economic situation in the United States. Latest figures show the black unemployment rate as 13.6 per cent against 7.4 per cent for white unemployment.

-- The arrival in the White House of Jimmy Carter, a president with a reputation as a liberal on race. This can have two consequences.

(1) Mounting pressure on the administration by blacks hopeful of a response.

(2) Increased black frustration in the event that rising black expectations are disappointed.

Interestingly a U.S. government advisory group -- the

National Advisory Committee on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals -- issued a report only last week saying in part:

"The present tranquility is deceptive. It is urged that it not be taken as a sign that disorder in the United States is a thing of the past."

"Many of the traditional indicators for disorders are clearly present and need but little stimulus to activate them. (But

there is little of an insurrectionary nature about present domestic terrorism and slight protest that it will develop into a regular form of guerrilla warfare."

The report was prepared by the committee's task force on disorders and terrorism, headed by a former Washington police chief, Jerry Wilson. There is no evidence that Mr. Wilson or his colleagues, in commenting on

"indicators for disorders," were thinking specifically of the Hanafi Black Muslims.

This group, to stress its links to the traditional and orthodox Sunni branch of Islam, calls itself the Hanafi Madhhab after the school of Islamic law established in the eighth century by Muslim theologian Abu Hanafi. (Madhhab means "school.") Abu Hanafi lived and worked in what is today Iraq.

There is no indication the American Hanafites incidentally do not, or whites and have among members black basketball

yer Kareem Abdul Jabbar, committed to the details of Hanafi's teachings. A woman used in the Qur'an dating Abu Hanafi of course to mean those who possess real and true religious "hanif."

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE  
is temporarily on page 4

هكذا صحت القصة

# Al Ja'abari tells Jerusalem Al Anba' W. Bank should first go to Arab League

MAN (R). — Sheikh Mohammad Ali Al Ja'abari, a veteran West Bank leader and Mayor of Hebron, said today Israel should hand the West Bank over to Arab League for a decision on its future.

## U.N. CTTEE LEAVES HERE

MAN (JNA). — The U.N. Committee for the Middle East, which arrived in Amman on Sunday, left here Monday. The committee's head said his visit to Jordan was part of a tour including Syria, Egypt, and Iraq. During his stay in Amman, the committee met with officials who informed it of the bad living conditions in the occupied areas under Israeli authorities.

## ELECTRICAL LINK UP TAKES PLACE

D (Agencies). — Jordanian Syria Sunday linked up electricity networks as a step towards closer economic integration. The Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddin Dafani pressed a button to start the link-up at a ceremony in Irbid. Syrian Minister of Electricity Ahmed Youssef did the same in his town of Hama. The two ministers inspected switching stations at Hama before going to power stations to inaugurate the link-up.

In an interview with the East Jerusalem Arabic daily Al Anba', Sheikh Al Ja'abari said the Arab states should prepare a joint programme for the Middle East peace conference.

"I know that Israel opposes the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation at the Geneva peace conference. If their presence there is an obstacle to renewing the talks, I would suggest to the PLO that it forego its demand for the moment," he said.

Sheikh Al Ja'abari said the PLO could become the leader of the Palestinians some time later.

## Karameh battle celebrated

AMMAN (JNA). — The General Army Headquarters Monday celebrated the ninth anniversary of Karameh battle, in which an Israeli invading force was defeated by the Jordanian army.

The Commander-in-Chief, Lt. Gen. Zaid Ibn Shaker, laid a wreath on the Martyrs' monument at Karameh village, where the ceremony took place.

AMMAN (J.T.). — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) in Lebanon has announced that Sibilin Training Centre will open again on a residential basis from March 14, 1977.

Initially, training will resume for the 279 first-year trainees of academic year 1974/1975, who did not have the

chance of completing their training programme that year. The centre, UNRWA states, will be pleased to receive back all candidates who have not completed their courses.

Sibilin Training Centre is located near Sidon in south Lebanon and provides vocational and teacher training courses for Palestinian refugees from Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

## NOV. '76 EXPORTS TO JAPAN JUMP 189 PER CENT

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan's exports to Japan last November jumped by 189 per cent compared with the same month in 1975.

Figures released by the Department of Statistics indicated that the value of Jordan's exports to Japan last November totalled JD 347,000 against JD 120,000 in November 1975. Jordan's imports from Japan last November amounted to JD 2,631,000 against JD 937,000 in November 1975. Jordan's exports to Turkey last November totalled JD 207,000 and its imports JD 997,000.

Figures released by the Department of Statistics indicated that the value of Jordan's exports to Japan last November totalled JD 347,000 against JD 120,000 in November 1975.

Figures released by the Department of Statistics indicated that the value of Jordan's exports to Japan last November totalled JD 347,000 against JD 120,000 in November 1975.



Prince Hassan Monday receives two members of a British medical team, which has just completed pioneering research into multiple sclerosis in Jordan. (JNA photo).

## Prince Hassan receives British neurologists

AMMAN (JNA). — Prince Hassan Monday received in his office several British medical experts, who informed him of the results of their studies alongside Jordanian doctors on the causes of multiple sclerosis. The research is the first of its kind in the Middle East.

Thanking the medical team for its efforts, Prince Hassan urged continued cooperation between Jordan and Britain in the field of medical research.

The visiting team of three includes representatives from the British Medical Research Council and the Institute of Neurology.

## AESCO AID RECEIVED FOR AQABA MARINE BIOLOGY STATION

AMMAN (JNA). — The University of Jordan has received \$50,000 from the Arab Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (AESCO) to improve equipment at the university's marine biology station in Aqaba.

The station supervisor, Dr. Adnan Alawai, professor of biology at the university, said AESCO had allocated a total sum of \$150,000 for two training courses on research into phosphate and oil pollution in the Red Sea.

The station was founded in 1965 to carry out scientific research work aimed at developing Jordan's economy and protecting the environment. Students of the Faculty of Science will also benefit.

## Canadian M.P.'s meet Badran

AMMAN (AFP). — A delegation of Canadian parliamentarians currently on a fact-finding tour of the Middle East held talks here with Jordanian authorities Sunday.

The delegation, led by Deputy Speaker Claude Wagner, held discussions on the Middle East situation and bilateral relations with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouji.

The Canadian M.P.'s have already visited Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

## Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

U.K. sterling	572.0	578.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	139.3	139.7
French franc	66.8	67.1
Swiss franc	130.7	131.1
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.5	37.7
Saudi riyal	93.8	94.3
Lebanese pound	109.2	109.6
Syrian pound	82.0	82.2
Iraqi dinar	942.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,151	1,155
Egyptian pound	480.0	470.0
Libyan dinar	805.0	820.0
UAE dirham	85.0	85.5

# Britain grants £9m for 5-year plan

AMMAN (JNA). — An agreement under which Britain will grant Jordan £9 million to help finance the Five-Year Development Plan was signed here Monday.

The agreement was signed for the Jordanian government by the President of the National Planning Council, Dr. Hanna Odeh, and for the British government by the British charge d'affaires in Amman, Mr. John Broadley.

## AMMAN'S NEW AIRPORT NAMED AFTER ALYA

AMMAN (JNA). — In commemoration of the late Queen Alya it has been decided that Amman new international airport shall be named after the queen.

The air base at Al Azraq was also renamed after Queen Alya by order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. He further ordered that the cardiac section at King Hussein Medical Centre should carry the name of the late queen.

A postal stamp will be issued later bearing the queen's name.

It is expected that about £3 million will be spent on a project to supply water to the rapidly growing port and town of Aqaba. Other projects are likely to be in the rural development area. Some of the projects may be financed jointly by Britain and Arab donors.

The loan of £9 million is part of a British aid allocation of some £12-14 million for the period 1976-80. The remaining funds, which are on a grant basis, will be used to finance technical cooperation in Jordan.

British experts are already advising Jordanian institutions in such areas as water supply, veterinary services, poultry production, medical training, engineering, cooperatives and English language teaching. In addition, Jordanians are assisted financially to receive technical training at graduate level in British institutions.

## Four new factories to be set up

AMMAN (JNA). — The administrative board of the Industrial Development Bank has approved a new loan of JD 423,500 for the establishment of two paint factories, a third for marble, and the fourth for the mobile sections of dump-trucks.

The establishment of these factories will provide work for 92 people and will add a sum of JD 217,000 to national income, as well as saving the equivalent of JD 97,200 of foreign currency by cutting imports.

Loans given by the bank since the beginning of 1977 total JD 1,758,800 for 18 projects.

## U.S. destroyer visits Aqaba

AMMAN (JNA). — The U.S. destroyer LaSalle arrived at the Port of Aqaba yesterday for a short visit.

The crew was greeted on arrival by a number of Jordanian officials, U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering and the Commander of the U.S. fleet in the Middle East, Admiral William Crowe, currently on a visit to Jordan.

## What's Going On

The British Council presents a lecture on Mikhail Naimy and western mysticism by Dr. Nabil Mattar of the English Department of the University of Jordan. 6:30 p.m., at the British Council Hall, Jabal Amman.



Minister of Industry and Commerce Najmeddin Dafani delivers a speech at the official link-up of Jordanian and Syrian electrical systems in Irbid Sunday. (JNA photo).

## NATIONAL NOTES

\* AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable of good wishes to the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, on the occasion of the Persian new year, the Nairuz.

\* AMMAN. — A delegation from the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce will pay an 11-day visit to India starting April 14, during which it will sign a bilateral agreement to boost trade and will look over India's progress in the commercial and industrial sectors.

\* AMMAN. — A Jordanian delegation left for Rabat Monday to participate in the joint three-day meeting of the Arab Civil Aviation Council and the Arab Air Transport Union to start there Tuesday. Discussions will centre on the establishment of an Arab civil aviation academy and an Arab airline company.

\* AMMAN. — Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf received the Czechoslovakian charge d'affaires in Amman Monday.

\* AMMAN. — Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf Monday received the East German ambassador to Jordan with whom he discussed cultural and sports links and the possibility of concluding a bilateral agreement to govern relations in these two fields.

\* AMMAN. — Minister of Waqf, Islamic and Holy Places Affairs Kamel Al Sharif received the famous Egyptian Qur'an reader, Sheikh Mustafa Ismail Monday.

\* AMMAN. — The Jordanian Physicians Association was officially registered at the Ministry of Interior Sunday. Its aim is to contribute to the development of science and technology in Jordan.

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## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

North-South vulnerable:  
West deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 554  
♥ K Q 10  
♦ A 103  
♣ J 1052

**WEST**  
♠ K Q J 108  
♥ 62  
♦ J 642  
♣ 4

**EAST**  
♠ Void  
♥ 98  
♦ 862  
♣ A Q 9876

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 73  
♥ A 753  
♦ K Q J 975  
♣ Void

The bidding:  
West North East South  
4♠ Pass Pass 5♣

Opening lead: King of ♣.

The computer age has had its effect on bridge. By having deals dealt by a computer, the same hands can be duplicated across many sections of large bridge tournaments. Not all players like computer deals, however. There are some who claim that the distributions are distorted, even though studies of many hundreds of thousands of hands dealt by the computer suggest that the hands produced are close to the true mathematical odds. You might not think so from this deal, played in the February unit-wide competition of the Greater New York Bridge Association.

West took advantage of the vulnerability to preempt with four spades, which was passed, round to South. While he held a distributionally powerful hand, it did contain quite a few losers, so South wisely decided that his hand was worth no more than a bid of five diamonds. North liked his high-card strength but not his shape.

Since South was unlikely to have nine or ten tricks in his own hand, North chose to pass.

This proved a prudent decision, for even the diamond game required careful play. West led the king of spades and East realized that he would gain nothing

by ruffing that trick. There are two lines of play, depending on what East discards.

If he discards a heart, declarer should win the ace, cross to dummy with the ten of diamonds and ruff a club.

When the king drops, declarer crosses to the king of hearts and ruffs another club high. When West shows out on the second

club, declarer draws trumps, ending in his hand, and he has a complete count of the distribution. East started with eight clubs and three

diamonds and, therefore, only two hearts. Since he discarded one, declarer can finesse the ten of hearts with complete confidence.

If East discards a club at trick one, declarer cashes the ace and king of trumps and then the king-queen of

hearts. When declarer leads the ten of hearts from dummy, East is caught. If he ruffs, declarer will discard a

spade on the ace of hearts and lose only one spade and a ruff. If he does not ruff, declarer will win the ace of

hearts and ruff his remaining heart with the ten of trumps, and lose only two spade tricks.

## THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



**DON'T GET IN OVER YOUR HEAD** -- It's not exactly a case of throwing them in at the deep end to see if they sink or swim, but former world diving champion Heinz Bauermeister believes in teaching babies to swim. He began his first swimming school for children eleven years ago and now plans to start up more similar centres. His plans have been welcomed by teachers and psychologists. As Professor Klaus Betke of the Munich University's children's clinic says, small children are under greater stress in the sand pit than when they are enjoying themselves in the water, provided they have lost their fear of this element.

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**TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE**

**GUNSMOKE: THE HIDERS**  
Marshall Dillon tries to reform outlaw by giving him job in a store, but gang decides otherwise.

**HAWAII 5-0: THE BELL TOLLS AT NOON**  
Mc Garrett investigates a series of murders related to drug traffic.

**RICH MAN, POOR MAN: CHAPTER 12**  
Tom and Kate get married. Julie gets drunk at wedding and Tom fights to save her from the clutches of man who accompanies her to the hotel.

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FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1977

## Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A good time to get into the practical matters that are facing you and to handle them effectively in a very down-to-earth and detailed fashion. Study your present financial position and get new ideas by which you can handle all such responsibilities.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study checkbooks well and see where you can spend wisely. Take care you are not overdrawn. Invest where feasible. Listen to suggestions of your accountant, as they are good.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study personal aims and know just how to gain them readily. Take treatments that make you look more charming. Make more contacts so that you can improve your social life considerably.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Get into confidential affairs that will aid in improving your financial status in particular. Please associates more and get better results.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to July 21) Please friends more and gain their added goodwill. Attend a small group affair, if invited. Handle routine work efficiently.

**LEO** (July 22 to Aug. 21) Perform tasks that will gain you the support of bigwigs. Use special care in handling important credit matters. Evening fine for socializing.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get into the detailed work of some new plan and get good results. Contact one who can give you added information you need.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are thinking along practical lines and can accomplish a good deal and get good results now. Pleasing a loved one in little things is appreciated. Drive with utmost care.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get into specifics and details of whatever associates want you to do and gain their okay. You may meet with some opposition but handle the situation wisely. Avoid one who is controversial.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Clarify your aims in your mind so that you know how to go after them in a positive manner and get right results. Join good friends at amusements later.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be certain to clarify your aims in your mind so you know how to go after them in a positive fashion and get right results. Be careful how you dress.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get everything at home in order for more efficient living in the future. Make plans to do some entertaining soon, but not tonight.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Take care of routine chores now and accomplish a good deal. Don't neglect to make important telephone calls.

**JUMBLE** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**ETTEW**  
[Grid]

**SUJOT**  
[Grid]

**LAMORF**  
[Grid]

**CUSSEN**  
[Grid]

Print answer here: THE [Grid]

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)  
Sunday's Jumbles: HOUSE CHASM ENTAIL BECALM  
Answer: It's strong-man stuff!—MUSCLE

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**

- Majority
- Punitive
- Bordeaux wine
- Antelope
- That person
- Sarcastic rebuke
- Esau
- Champion fighter
- Goddess of mischief
- Young demon
- Musical group
- Banquet
- Equal
- Those opposed

**DOWN**

- Cud
- Essential parts
- Living in snow
- Exclamation
- Hurry
- Liturgy
- Quarrel
- Lapin and racoon
- Illuminated
- Olives
- Domineer
- Bone
- Burn slightly
- Senator
- Corroded
- Offshoot

**Solution of Sunday's Puzzle**

**DOWN**

- College degree: abbr.
- Business getters
- Delustation
- Walks falteringly
- Depressed spirits
- Bean: Spanish
- Breakwater
- Towards the inside
- Contound
- Earth
- Arabian commander
- Bondsman
- Base
- Tart
- Rents
- Mounted
- Credit
- Left
- Dilatory
- Season
- Yale
- Type measure
- King of Bashan

Par time 32 min. AP Newsfeatures 3-22

**LAUGHS FROM EUROPE**

ENGLAND  
Waller

"A glass of water, please."

**THE BETTER HALF.** By Barnes

"He has to stay in bed two more days! ... Then you'd better give ME some medicine!"

**PEANUTS**

DO WE REALLY KNOW THAT I HIT HIM WITH THE BALL?

MAYBE HE HAD A HEART ATTACK... MAYBE YOU SHOULD POUND HIM ON THE CHEST...

OUCH! IT WORKED!

EXCEPT YOU MISSED HIS CHEST AND HIT HIM ON THE NOSE...

**THE FLINTSTONES**

AH-HH! THE FIRST SIGN OF SPRING...

A ROBIN MUGGING A SPARROW!!

**MUTT AND JEFF**

JEFF, I JUST PUT THE COFFEE ON! WATCH IT SO IT DOESN'T BOIL OVER! I'M GONNA PICK UP THE WIFE AND KID!

SIXTY EIGHTY-IT'S ANOTHER TOUCHDOWN!



## Greece, Turkey begin air, naval manoeuvres

ATHENS, March 21 (R). — Greece and Turkey began naval and air force manoeuvres in different areas of the Aegean today as tension mounted between the two countries.

Turkey's week-long exercises are being held in the eastern Aegean and the four-day Greek exercises are taking place in the west.

The Greeks have claimed that the Turkish manoeuvres will hinder sea and air traffic, but the Turks have rejected this assertion.

The Turkish exercises are being held in international waters but will take the Turks near Greek air force planes are on patrol to see there is no viola-

tion of Greek air space or territorial waters.

Units of the Greek fleet, escorted by planes took up position in the western Aegean today for their exercises. An authoritative source said the manoeuvres had been planned long before the Turks announced theirs, and were not a reply to them.

According to usually reliable sources troops boarded Greek warships and were taking part in the exercises.

Diplomatic observers here said the renewed tension between the two NATO allies was likely to affect talks on settling their dispute over territorial rights in the Aegean, due to start in Paris later this month.

## Rabin "shares responsibility" with wife for bank account

TEL AVIV, March 21 (R). — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last night he shared responsibility with his wife for the illegal bank account they maintained in a Washington bank after returning to Israel in 1973.

Mr. Rabin told Israel Radio that he and his wife, Leah, opened a joint account after he arrived in the U.S. capital to take up the post of Israel ambassador in 1968.

"While my wife handled the account, I share responsibility since it was also in my name, and since we did not close it or report it to the Finance Ministry on our return, we violated the law," he said.

The account was first reported last Tuesday in the Israeli press which said it amounted to \$2,000. Mrs. Rabin later announced that the account was closed down and the money transferred to Israel.

Mr. Rabin said he gave the authorities all the facts and favoured a full investigation.

Until now the opposition has not used the incident in the hard political campaigning now underway for the general election on May 17.

## Spain's royal couple sightsee in Egypt

CAIRO, March 21 (R). — King Juan Carlos of Spain and his wife Queen Sofia flew to Aswan today to visit the pharaonic temples of Abu Simbel.

The temples were built by Ramses II more than 3,000 years ago, and have become a tourist attraction since their removal from their original site and reconstruction on a higher plateau in 1966.

The temples were moved to save them from being submerged in the Nile waters when the Aswan Dam was completed. The royal couple were due to go to Luxor later today and return to Cairo tomorrow.

Since his arrival on a five-day state visit to Egypt last Saturday, the king held an informal meeting with President Anwar Sadat followed by a formal round of talks yesterday on Middle East developments and bilateral relations.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy said the two heads of state exchanged views on the world situation and underlined the importance of boosting Egyptian-Spanish relations.

He also said the talks dealt with expanding bilateral economic, industrial and trade relations.

The semi-official Al Ahram newspaper said today the king and president reviewed the situation in both the Red Sea and the Mediterranean.

President Sadat emphasised the importance of converting the two seas into neutral zones, it said.

The Egyptian leader also proposed that countries in the area should be responsible for the security of the two seas.

The paper did not elaborate.

It quoted Mr. Fahmy as saying that President Anwar Sadat has accepted an invitation

by King Juan Carlos to visit Spain at a date that will be fixed later.

At a banquet in King Carlos's honour Saturday night, President Sadat hailed Spain's support for the Arab cause. It is the only West European country which has no diplomatic relations with Israel.

In reply, King Carlos expressed support for President Sadat's policy of trying to realise a just and permanent Middle East peace.

While her husband was conferring with the Egyptian leader, Queen Sofia Sunday flew to Alexandria and visited museums and other tourist spots.

## Castro denies Cuban involvement in Zaire

DAR ES SALAAM, March 21 (Agencies). — Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro emphatically denied here today that Cuban troops have intervened in Zaire.

In a press conference carried by Tanzania Radio, the Cuban leader who arrived here on Friday on an official visit said "the rebellion now under way in Zaire" was an "internal" affair. Cuba had not interfered, Mr. Castro said.

The Cuban leader nevertheless reaffirmed that this country is "totally engaged in the liberation struggle of Southern Africa."

But "revolution must come about within each country," he said.

Meanwhile, Zaire Radio said today that the Zaire air force has sent bombers to Dilolo, one of four towns reported held by former Katangese gendarmes, in Zaire's Shaba Province.

The radio, monitored in Brazzaville, said a fighter-bomber was hit by shells during one of the raids yesterday but that it managed to land at Kolwezi, some 200 kms. east of Dilolo.

Yesterday, Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith said the armed invasion of Zaire was the Soviet Union's latest attempt to "create a saddle across Africa" as part of its plan to take over the whole of southern Africa.

Speaking from Salisbury in an interview with South African Radio, Mr. Smith said: "If Zaire goes, then the next country to go will be Zambia. And one hasn't got to stretch one's imagination very far to work out where they are going to go from there."

## U.S. mission to Indochina heads home

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines, March 21 (R). — A special delegation sent by President Carter to Indochina left here for the United States today carrying a guardedly-optimistic report about the chances of normalising U.S. relations with Vietnam.

The five-member delegation spent three days in Vietnam and one in Laos, but Cambodia was closed to them.

The mission's leader, Mr. Leonard Woodcock, head of the United Auto Workers' Union, told reporters here the talks in Hanoi and Vientiane had been useful and constructive.

Leaders in both Vietnam and Laos had raised the issue of economic aid, he said, but "their specific actions showed we could tackle these questions as they came along."

Mr. Woodcock placed emphasis on Vietnam's action in handing over the remains of 12 U.S. airmen whose coffins were flown to the United States at the weekend.

The delegation had sought to get information about the 2,500 U.S. servicemen lost in action.

Mr. Woodcock said yesterday that "We now have an understanding for a constructive mechanism for future procedure on the question of the missing in action and in the process laid the basis, at the will of the president, in moving towards normalisation of relations," he said.

The visit to Vientiane had been very short, he added. There was no "symbolic action" or specific undertakings but the mission had hoped for developing similar mechanisms as in Hanoi to be conducted through contacts with the U.S. embassy in Laos.

## Marcos optimistic over wife's Libyan peace talks

MANILA, March 21 (R). — President Ferdinand Marcos said today he believed his wife's talks in Libya would solve the dispute between the government and Moslem rebels in the southern Philippines.

Mrs. Imelda Marcos has been in Tripoli for 10 days to seek the help of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi in reviving deadlocked peace talks between a government team and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

"We are confronted with a problem, serious in dimension, in the south... we believe we will be able to solve the problem with the visit of the first lady in Tripoli," President Marcos said in a speech near here.

The Tripoli-based MNLF wants an autonomous region in 13 southern Philippines provinces where over two million Moslems live. The Philippines is predominantly Christian.

## New Congolese leaders order life back to semi-normalcy

BRAZZAVILLE, March 21 (Agencies). Congo's ruling 11-man military committee ordered a return to work this morning but said there would be no work in the afternoon which would be a time of meditation following the assassination of President Marien Ngouabi on Friday.

Pharmacies, hospitals, clinics and food stores would work normally, the committee ordered in an official communique put out yesterday.

The committee was appointed by the ruling Congolese Labour Party after a four-man commando squad allegedly in the pay of ex-President Alphonse Massamba-Debat who resigned nine years ago, shot down President Ngouabi's successor.

Two of the commandos were killed, the others got away.

A curfew clamped on Brazzaville after the assassination is to remain in force from 19:00 to 06:00 hours and all night-shift workers will be required to carry identity cards when moving about the city. Bars are allowed to stay open but may not serve drinks or play music.

Informed sources here said yesterday that Congolese authorities have arrested former head of state Mr. Massamba-Debat, the alleged instigator of the assassination of President Ngouabi.

They said M. Massamba-Debat and some of his supporters were being interrogated by Congo's military committee.

M. Massamba-Debat, now 55, came to power in 1963 but was ousted by the army in 1968. Four months later President Ngouabi took over and switched the nation's ideological direction from right to left.

Radio Brazzaville, monitored in Yaounde, reported yesterday that President Ngouabi will be buried on April 2.

The decision was made by the military committee, the radio said.

## French visitor to Peking gleams interest of Chinese in future of relations with U.S.

By George Bianchi

PEKING, March 21 (AFP). — The Chinese are intrigued by American President Jimmy Carter. One of China's top leaders, First Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien, demonstrated this yesterday by suddenly asking a French politician passing through Peking: "Do you know President Carter?"

While Mr. Li Hsien-nien did not give the reasons for his interest in the new U.S. leader, they seem clear: The key to complete normalisation of Sino-American relations, a process started by former President Richard Nixon in February 1972, lies in President Carter's hands.

At a meeting here yesterday

afternoon with French Sen. Andre Colin, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Armed Forces Committee, Mr. Li Hsien-nien reaffirmed China's three preconditions for normalisation of relations between Washington and Peking: The breaking of American-Taiwanese diplomatic relations, the withdrawal of American forces from Taiwan and the abrogation of the Washington-Taipei defence treaty.

The basic document to which Mr. Carter must refer for the future of U.S.-China links is the Shanghai Communiqué published at the end of the first visit here by former President Nixon, the Chinese leader stressed.

Sino-Soviet relations, détente and Europe were among the main subjects concerning foreign policy brought up at the one-hour-40-minute meeting, Sen. Colin told AFP.

Thus Mr. Li Hsien-nien clearly confirmed that recent Sino-Soviet talks on border problems had ended with "no results". The negotiations, started in 1969 after bloody incidents on the Ussuri River, have since been going on intermittently but apparently fruitlessly.

The latest phase in the talks lasted three months, from the start of last December to the end of February. The French senator said the Chinese leaders saw as a "manoeuvre" the arrival in Peking shortly after the death of Chairman Mao Tse-tung of Soviet Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and chief negotiator Leonid Il'yichev.

The talks with Sen. Colin gave Mr. Li Hsien-nien another chance to attack the policy of détente whose sole beneficiary, according to Peking, is the Soviet Union.

The topic of détente has already inspired China's press and leaders in ironic imagery as well as direct attacks, and a new metaphor was heard for the first time yesterday: "You

(the West) are throwing corn (détente) to a chicken (the Soviet Union) in order to catch it but finally it will escape," Mr. Li Hsien-nien declared.

Mr. Li Hsien-nien also confirmed various "disturbances" brought about by the "gang of four" headed by Chairman Mao's widow Chiang Ching during 1976, notably when they were dismissed in October, but he emphasised that the foreign press had exaggerated the extent of the troubles.

In the field of economics Mr. Li Hsien-nien, an expert on such questions, conceded that there were difficulties but he minimised the scale and the consequences of the severe drought that is hitting a large part of China north of the Yangtze River.

Though the drought is the most serious since the People's Republic was founded in 1949, he said: "We are mobilising everybody and we'll overcome this difficulty."

Stating that China was a "developing country", the vice premier admitted that the Chinese did not eat well and they were poorly dressed, but he went on to say that a "step forward has been taken" and nobody in the country was dying of hunger, as was the case before 1949.

Sen. Colin arrived in China on Thursday as guest of the People's Institute of Foreign Affairs.

## ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

### Kuwait reportedly will go ahead with scheduled 5% oil price rise

NICOSIA, March 21 (Agencies). — Kuwait has informed its customers that it will go ahead as planned with a 5 per cent oil price rise in July, the Middle East Economic Survey reported today.

Kuwait, producing nearly two million barrels a day in 1976, is one of the 11 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Ex-

porting Countries (OPEC) who raised prices 10 per cent in January and plan a further 5 per cent rise in July.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) opted for a single 5 per cent rise in January.

The difference in percentage marked that start of a "two-tier" pricing system within

OPEC. There have been subsequent efforts to get back to a unified pricing system, so far without results.

Meanwhile, the Kuwait newspaper Al Siyassah reported yesterday that the UAE has expressed reservations on a Saudi Arabian request to increase Abu Dhabi oil production.

It said the UAE view was that such a step would harm Gulf oil states.

"Although the UAE supports Saudi Arabia in not raising oil prices (any further), yet it does not agree with it on increasing production," it added.

Al Anba, another Kuwaiti newspaper, reported yesterday that Mr. James Akins, former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, would tour a number of OPEC members, including Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait, as President Carter's special envoy.

It said his mission would be to "explain the American viewpoint on the question of oil prices and the expected solutions."

The paper said the tour would start on March 29.

### Israeli £ devalued again

TEL AVIV, March 21 (R). — The government announced last night a second devaluation this month of the Israeli pound to "combat increased public spending."

The pound's new rate against a five-currency basket -- the U.S. dollar, sterling, West German mark, French franc and Dutch guilder -- will be 9.42 instead 9.25.

The price of basic commodities will not be affected, the announcement said. The last devaluation took place on March 1.

The Israeli pound rate against the foreign currency basket is arrived at by taking an average of the pound's exchange rates.

The Israeli pound has been devalued by a total of 7.6 per cent against the dollar since last December.

### Abu Dhabi meet opens on use of Arab surplus funds

ABU DHABI, March 21 (R). — Arab surplus funds totalling \$38 billion during 1976, an Arab financial expert said today.

Mr. Mohammad Nabil Ibrahim, Secretary General of the Union of Arab Banks, said that \$24 billion of the surplus belonged to Saudi Arabia.

He said that Arab aid to the developing countries over the past few years was 10 times greater than that given by the industrial countries and represented 3 per cent of the Arab states' total revenue.

Mr. Ibrahim was speaking at the opening session here of a three-day symposium attended by financial experts from 15 Arab countries.

It is studying obstacles to the flow of Arab capital into Arab financial and banking institutions.

One of the opening speakers, Dr. Hassan Abbas Zaki of Abu Dhabi, proposed the setting up of an Arab dollar market, freedom of investment, a unified Arab dinar and increased investment funds.

All these, he said would "facilitate the flow of surplus Arab capital into Arab markets and development projects instead of depositing this elsewhere."

### French franc expected to depreciate 2.6% within a year, U.K. bureau says

LONDON, March 21 (AFP). — The French franc will depreciate by an average 2.6 per cent over the coming 12 months, and in particular it will lose around 8 per cent vis-à-vis the Deutsche mark, the Foreign Monetary Research Bureau said here today.

Although political factors would count in the short term, the basic cause of the depreciation would be economic -- increased inflation, costlier imports and the budget deficit, it said.

The current payments deficit would continue to be substantial, totalling about 38,000 million francs or \$7,500 million this year, mainly due to a trade deficit of 31,600 million francs or \$6,300 million.

Worsening terms of trade would wipe out an expected improvement in exports.

The franc would recover slightly in the second quarter of this year but dip again subsequently, the bureau predicted.

Political pressures would heighten in France early next year as the March parliamentary election neared. The franc would decline in both the first and second quarters of 1978, the bureau said.

Another danger to the franc was a faster than expected rise in interest rates internationally. It could suffer also from a difficulty in placing French bonds on the European currency market, and the tension between political parties subsequent to this month's left-wing gains in the municipal elections.

As to the pound sterling, the bureau said a further 4 per cent depreciation would be needed by the second quarter of next year if Britain's industry was to remain competitive.

### ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

\* KUWAIT, March 21 (R). — Five Arab Gulf ministers opened talks here today designed to set up a unified civil aviation company. Ministers of transport from Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman -- owners of Gulf Air -- and Kuwaiti Finance Minister Abdul Rahman Al Aliqi embarked on the task of pooling their countries' air services.

\* TEL AVIV, March 21 (R). — The Israeli Trades Union Federation activated yesterday to demand immediate payment of an additional 4 to 5 per cent wage increase to industrial workers, on top of work agreements already signed.

\* NICOSIA, March 21 (AFP). — Middle East oil output rose 2.3 per cent last year to reach 21,630,000 barrels a day, the Middle East Economic Survey reported here today. Except for Iraq, whose output dropped 1.4 per cent, all producer countries in the region achieved significant rises: Saudi Arabia 22.2 per cent, Abu Dhabi 12.2 per cent, Iran 10 per cent and Kuwait 4 per cent.

Other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) recorded rises: Libya 29.3 per cent, Nigeria 16 per cent, Indonesia 15.2 per cent and Venezuela's output fell 2.2 per cent. Total OPEC output rose 12.1 per cent to reach 30,462,000 barrels a day. December was the best month with 34,400,000 barrels a day.

\* LONDON, March 21 (AFP). — Coffee reached £4,300 per ton for the first time on the London market today. This price was paid for coffee delivered March next year. The continuing rise was attributed this time to Mexico's announcement of export curbs. Generally, coffee for the current month was around £4,185 and that for first quarter 1978 was £4,300 or so.

## WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

\* ABIDJAN, March 21 (R). — The second conference of Arab and African news agency directors will be held from March 26 to 31 in Tripoli, Libya, M. Issaka Tao, Director of the Ivory Coast News Agency, confirmed today. M. Tao, who is also president of the African News Agencies Union, said the meeting will review progress since the decisions taken at the first conference in Tunis two years ago.

\* NIAMEY, Niger, March 21 (AFP). — Heads of state of five Sahara Desert neighbour countries meeting here since yesterday have agreed to hold annual summit meetings preceded by foreign ministers' meetings. A joint communique published today said the first regular summit would take place next year at Bamako, Mali. The five heads of state attending are Presidents Houari Boumedienne (Algeria), Moussa Traore (Mali), Seyni Kountche (Niger), Felix Malloum (Chad) and Libya's Muammar Qadhafi.

\* LONDON, March 21 (R). — The Sudanese daily newspaper Al Ayyam reported that President Jaafar Nimelri will visit Peking next July to discuss with Chinese leaders the development of bilateral relations, according to Omdurman Radio monitored here yesterday.

\* LUSAKA, March 21 (AFP). — Nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo yesterday warned Rhodesian whites against accepting any internal settlement with rival nationalist Bishop Abel Muzorewa and said they must be prepared to face Soviet rockets if they did. Observers here said Mr. Nkomo's warning indicated he had reached some kind of military pact with the Soviet Union during his recent visit to Moscow.

## WALL STREET REPORT

Prices declined sharply Monday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average lost more than seven points in very low trading.

Brokers said the market continued to be plagued by inflation fears. Analysts also noted disappointment at Commerce Department figures showing a rise of less than 0.1 per cent in orders for durable goods during February.

Declines outnumbered advances at the close by a wide 879 to 552 margin. Most groups of shares ended the day on a lower tone. General Motors lost one point at 71-3/8, Atlantic Richfield was off 1/2 at 21-5/8 and Xerox fell 5/8 at 48-3/8.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 953.54, a loss of 7.48 points; Transp at 230.18, a loss of 1.17; utilities at 106.88, a loss of 0.64. 18,040,000 shares changed hands, of which 2,940,000 during the last hour.

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market Monday showed further downward reaction to the pressure against the government, dealers said. Trading was light and at 15:00 the F.T. index was down 13.2 at 415.3.

Government bonds were above the day's lows with short dates up to 7/8 point lower while others lost up to 1/2 point. Falls among equity leaders ran into double figures with B.P. and Hawker losing 34p and 20p respectively.

Gold shares were narrowly mixed in minimal interest. Dollar stocks were also mixed and Canadians eased slightly. Australians hardened.

Unilever, Glaxo, Shell, Fisons, Bowater, ICI, Beecham and Dunlop lost between 7p and 12p while banks fell as much as 10p.

Indian stocks retreated following the defeat of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Attock Oil, James Finlay, Warren Tea, Williamson and Assam suffered falls of 8p to 12p.

Shipbuilding issues reacted to recent strength now that the nationalisation compensation hopes seemed in doubt.

Price of gold closed in London Monday at \$152/02.

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